

House Bill 1501 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Lindsey of the 54<sup>th</sup> and Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to regulation of alcoholic beverages in general, so as to provide certain limits for fines imposed for violations of local alcoholic beverage ordinances; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to regulation of alcoholic beverages in general, is amended by adding new Code Section 3-3-2.2 to read as follows:

"3-3-2.2.

Notwithstanding the limitations imposed by subparagraph (a)(2)(C) of Code Section 36-35-6 or any other provision of general law, in the case of a county or municipality which issues more than 300 licenses for consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises, the maximum fine for violations of local alcoholic beverages licensing ordinances referenced in Code Section 3-3-2 pertaining to licenses issued to sell alcoholic beverages by the drink for consumption on the premises shall be \$2,500.00. Nothing in this Code section shall prohibit the governing authority of a county or municipality from imposing a penalty that is otherwise allowed by law, unless such law is a local law in conflict with this Code section."

**SECTION 2.**

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2006.

**SECTION 3.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.